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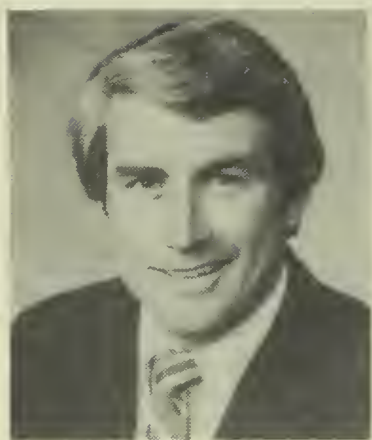
ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY



SEP 5 1985

JIM EDGAR
Secretary of State
State Librarian

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS



A CENTURY AND A HALF OF PROGRESS

Meeting for the first time in the new state capital of Springfield, the General Assembly passed an act in 1839 creating the State Library and designating the Secretary of State as State Librarian. To be located in what is now the Old State Capitol, the State Library was envisioned as a small research library for state officials and employees. By the turn of the century, the library, with a collection of 40,000 items and a staff of three, had moved to the present Capitol.

Now located in the Centennial Building, the Illinois State Library, with a comprehensive collection of more than 3.7 million items, continues to serve as the official library of state government. However, the Illinois State Library has an equally important charge to serve the 11.4 million citizens of Illinois. It does this by supporting and implementing library services linking more than 2,500 libraries of all types across the state.

Far from being a dusty collection of books in Springfield, the Illinois State Library is a growing vital organization which is constantly expanding its services to patrons in and out of state government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Edgar".

Secretary of State
and State Librarian





SERVING STATE GOVERNMENT

In its role as the library for state government, the Illinois State Library maintains a collection of 3.7 million items with an emphasis on federal and state documents. The library is a regional depository for state and federal documents and serves as a coordinator for 64 federal and state document depositories.

Significant collections include:

- Federal government publications
- Federal and Illinois legislation and regulations
- Illinois state agency publications
- Illinois and federal maps
- Patent information
- Access to computerized information services

SERVING ILLINOIS LIBRARIES

The Illinois State Library serves all Illinois residents by supporting library services statewide. The Illinois Library and Information Network (ILLINET) links more than 2,500 publicly and privately supported academic, public, school and special libraries, enabling them to share resources. The Illinois State Library works through 18 regional library systems and four Research and Reference Centers to provide specialized materials to you through your local library.

The Illinois State Library works to improve library services throughout Illinois by providing libraries with assistance for continuing library education and advice on program development. The State Library also stimulates local support for library services and works with other organizations and institutions to provide workshops and in-service training programs for librarians and library trustees. Specialized programs to meet the needs of persons who are disabled, including the blind, the disadvantaged and elderly persons, are also provided.

The Illinois State Library also serves libraries by providing services for rural library development, awarding and monitoring funds for library construction and library services development, publishing statistics and analyses relating to library growth and service, and by assisting local libraries with a wide range of support services.

For further information:

Illinois State Library
Centennial Building
Springfield, IL 62756
(217) 782-2994

Bridget L. Lamont, Director

SPECIAL PROGRAMS



LITERACY

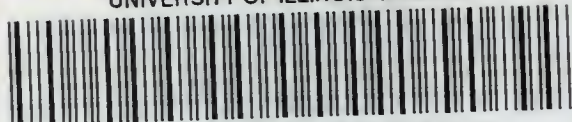
An estimated one in five Illinois adults are functionally illiterate. Under the leadership of the Illinois State Library, libraries across Illinois are becoming involved in the fight against illiteracy. Federal Library Services and Construction Act grants awarded by the State Library have enabled many libraries and library systems to organize cooperative regional literacy councils. Grant monies are also used to acquire materials for new adult readers and to provide space for tutor and adult instruction.

The Illinois literacy effort has been spearheaded by the Illinois Literacy Council, appointed in 1984 to coordinate literacy programs statewide.



PATENT DEPOSITORY

In its role as a United States Patent Depository, the Illinois State Library supports Illinois' economic development efforts. The library has access to the Classification and Search Support Information System, the computerized system of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and collects patent information on microfilm and paper. Illinois residents can learn to conduct their own patent searches at the Illinois State Library.



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READ ILLINOIS

Initiated in 1981, this program encourages Illinois residents to recognize and enjoy the state's rich literary heritage. Free posters, bookmarks and the Illinois Authors Maps are available from the Illinois State Library.



BLIND AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED

Illinois residents who are blind and physically disabled have access to books on tape and disk as well as in Braille through the Illinois Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (IRLBPH) in Chicago. The State Library contracts with the IRLBPH to provide services through the 18 regional library systems.



DELIVERY SERVICE

The Illinois State Library supervises and funds the Intersystems Library Delivery Service, which delivers interlibrary loan materials statewide. The system provides 24-hour delivery service on six routes with 38 direct drop points, ensuring fast, secure delivery of library materials.